

MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION

June 15, 2017 - 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Polk County River Place, Room 1A
2309 Euclid Ave, Des Moines, Iowa
MEETING MINUTES

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas Bouska (phone)	Geoff Lauer
Thomas Broeker	John Parmeter
Jody Eaton	Rebecca Peterson
Marsha Edgington	Rebecca Schmitz
Kathryn Johnson (phone)	Marilyn Seemann
Betty King	Jennifer Sheehan

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Peter Brantner	Senator Liz Mathis
Senator Mark Costello	Brett McLain
Representative David Heaton	Representative Scott Ourth
Sharon Lambert	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Theresa Armstrong	MHDS, Bureau Chief, Community Services and Planning
Hannah Beach	Legislative Services Agency
Teresa Bomhoff	NAMI Greater Des Moines/Mental Health Planning Council
Catie Cambell	Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals
Eileen Creager	Aging Resource Centers of Iowa
Judy Davis	NAMI Iowa and the Office of Consumer Affairs
Molly Driscoll	Brown Winick Law Firm
Jerry Foxhoven	Nominee for Director, Department of Human Services
Christie Gerken	Iowa Advocates for Mental Health Recovery
Kristin Haar	Iowa Department of Transportation
Cindy Hess	Hillcrest Family Services
Natalie Koerber	Amerigroup
Caitlin Owens	University of Iowa, Center for Disabilities and Development
Charles Palmer	Director, Department of Human Services
Ellen Ritter	Heart of Iowa MHDS Region
Flora Schmidt	Iowa Behavioral Health Association
Peter Schumacher	MHDS, Community Services & Planning/CDD

Welcome and Call to Order

John Parmeter called the meeting to order at 9:35 am and led introductions. Quorum was established with eight members present and two participating by phone. No conflicts of interest were identified.

Charles Palmer said he was grateful that Jerry Foxhoven could make time to come out and meet Department staff, and thought it would be a good opportunity to introduce him

to the Commission and to thank them for their hard work. Director Palmer said he worked with the Commission since before it was a state Commission, and in many forms since then. Director Palmer said the Commission's role with the Mental Health and Disability Services division, and to the state as a whole is invaluable, and will be important over the next year with projects to improve community-based mental health services in Iowa. Jerry Foxhoven said he is excited to start the work at the Department because of the opportunity he has to make a difference in so many peoples' lives. He said he has seen the good work the Commission has done, and is excited to work with the Commission in the future. John Parmeter thanked Director Palmer for all the work he has done over the years, and welcomed Jerry Foxhoven to the Department.

Approval of Minutes

Geoff Lauer made a motion to approve the May 17th and May 18, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Marsha Edgington seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MHDS Update – Theresa Armstrong

Theresa said the Administrative Rules Review Committee approved the rules package adopted by the Commission in April and they will be effective on July 1. There are currently eleven providers accredited, and the Department is already seeing the beneficial effects of the rule change.

Theresa spoke about the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup that has met over the last two years. This last year, the Workgroup recommended funding for "Children's Wellbeing Collaboratives" which would focus on preventive care for children and families. Theresa said the Department will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for these collaboratives. Legislation lays out the requirements for what the collaboratives should be responsible for, and the Department intends to award two contracts for a total of \$300,000. This legislation also established a Children's Mental Health Advisory Committee out of the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup. This committee would be ongoing.

Theresa said the Department will have a workgroup charged with determining how to best address the needs of Iowans have serious and complex needs associated with mental illness. Each MHDS Region will also have a workgroup to examine these needs within their own Regions. Director Palmer had met with several groups to discuss these needs earlier in the year, and now this initiative brings a broad-based coalition to the table to find statewide and local solutions.

Jody Eaton noted that these workgroups can bring together partners who do not normally work together, and learn each other's languages.

Theresa said that the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will have a site visit in Iowa in September as part of the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) application process. They will meet with MHDS, The Department of Public Health for the Substance Abuse Block Grant, and the Mental

Health Planning Council to talk about what is happening with Iowa's mental health and substance abuse systems.

Becky Schmitz asked about the Government Oversight Committee's hearings on the deaths of two children in Iowa. Theresa answered that she did not have any information on the hearings.

Kathy Johnson asked if the Department needed anything from providers for the MHBG site visit. Theresa answered that she did not know yet, generally, if SAMHSA requires information, it has already been gathered by the Department. Theresa also noted that providers of First Episode Psychosis services may need to submit additional information, but they have not gotten a request for that yet.

Iowa Olmstead Plan Update – Connie Fanselow

Connie presented the history of the Olmstead Decision. The decision required every state to make changes and make community living possible for people with disabilities. Governor Vilsack designated the Department as the lead agency for Olmstead implementation. There were workgroups to develop the first Olmstead Plan, and from those workgroups, several members wanted to stay involved, and became what is now known as the Olmstead Consumer Task Force.

Connie presented a draft framework for the Olmstead Plan including domains, goals, and how to measure progress towards those goals.

John Parmeter asked what the specific questions were that the Department would try to answer with data. Connie answered that the Department is already collecting some quantitative data as well as qualitative data from individuals to note their experiences. John Parmeter expressed concern that the goals were not specific. Theresa Armstrong said that this is a living plan and there would be year-end analysis. At that point, the Department may add or adjust goals including possibly making them more specific.

Geoff Lauer asked if this is a Department of Human Services Plan, or if this is a State of Iowa Plan. Theresa Armstrong said the Department of Human Services has been developing this plan as the lead agency for Olmstead initiatives.

Connie said the goals the Department has set are measurable, and will have numbers associated with them. The Department is not quite ready to set targets with a number of them. John Parmeter said some of the goals such as individuals having "timely and convenient access to services" could be defined. Connie answered that since services are very diverse, "timely access" could mean a number of things" which makes the term difficult to define more strictly. Connie said there needed to be compromises between making the data very specific and difficult to collect and analyze, and making data more general, making it less meaningful.

There was a discussion on the specificity of the goals within the Olmstead Plan framework.

Marsha Edgington spoke about the State Resource Centers (SRC). There has been a specific target set that SRCs need to reduce their population by a net of twelve residents every year, and finding community-based services for them. This is not a goal that is specifically in writing, but is one that the SRCs work toward every year.

Transportation Services for People with Disabilities – Kristin Haar

Kristin Haar presented a PowerPoint presentation on a variety of transportation services that are available for people with disabilities.

John Parmeter asked if these services can cross county or MHDS Regional borders. Kristin answered that they can.

Jen Sheehan asked if individuals need to apply to use paratransit. Kristin answered that they do have an application, and that they can expire since some disabilities are temporary, for example if a person is recovery from a medical illness or a surgical procedure.

Geoff Lauer asked how Mobility Managers are funded. Kristin said they will all be locally funded by local transit agencies. Geoff asked if the funding is sustainable. Kristin said there are sustainability plans in place for all of the transit authorities with Mobility Managers.

Jody Eaton said the Mobility Manager in her area has been very beneficial for the Central Iowa Community Services MHDS Region.

Jen Sheehan said that her area has low utilization of public transportation, and asked why smaller vehicles like vans are not used more. Kristin said bigger vehicles are used because of peak utilization rather than average utilization, however, she said she expects to see higher utilization of smaller vehicles in the future.

The Commission broke into committees at 11:25 am

The Commission reconvened as a whole at 12:00 pm

Planning for July Meeting

Harry Rossander will be coming to the July 20 Commission meeting to speak about the Administrative Rule-making process.

There were requests for presentations on Medicaid eligibility, mental health workforce initiatives, and assessments.

Marsha Edgington said she would be ready to present the SRC's annual Barrier Report in August.

Public Comment

Peter Schumacher announced that this would be his last Commission meeting as his term appointment with the University of Iowa CDD had not been renewed. Peter said he has been working closely with Julie Maas and MHDS to make sure there is a smooth transition. He thanked the Commission for the time he had with them.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peter Schumacher.